

Appln. No. 09/744,986

Attorney Docket No. T3653-8874US01

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

By this Amendment, Claims 43-44 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein.

Applicants would like to thank Examiners Bella and Nguyen for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Jason Vick, during the October 4, 2005 Personal Interview. During the Personal Interview, the Melen reference was discussed and it was agreed that Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the Melen reference.

With all outstanding rejections having been overcome, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T3653-8874US01) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of

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time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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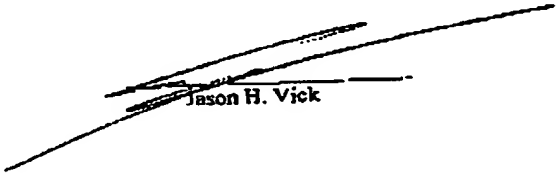
Jason H. Vick  
Reg. No. 45,285

September 19, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

7/19/05  
Date

  
Jason H. Vick